

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

- 1-10. (cancelled).
11. (new) A bone screw comprising:
a head,
a shaft having a longitudinal axis, a proximal section adjoining the head, and a distal section;
wherein the distal section is attached to the proximal section by way of a ball-and-socket joint.
12. (new) The bone screw of claim 11, wherein the distal section comprises the ball, and the proximal section comprises the socket.
13. (new) The bone screw of claim 11, wherein the proximal section is at least partially threaded.
14. (new) The bone screw of claim 11, wherein the distal section is at least partially threaded.
15. (new) The bone screw of claim 11, wherein the shaft is cannulated.
16. (new) The bone screw of claim 11, wherein the length of the shaft is constant.
17. (new) The bone screw of claim 11, wherein the proximal section has a larger diameter than the distal section.
18. (new) The bone screw of claim 11, wherein the distal section is allowed to deflect no more than about 90 degrees relative to the longitudinal axis.
19. (new) The bone screw of claim 11, wherein the distal section is allowed to deflect no more than about 30 degrees relative to the longitudinal axis.

20. (new) The bone screw of claim 11, wherein the ball has a substantially octagonal shape.
21. (new) The bone screw of claim 11, wherein the distal section is rotatable relative to the proximal section about the longitudinal axis.
22. (new) A method for inserting a bone screw comprising:
inserting a guide wire into the body;
drilling a first hole into a first bone segment;
inserting the bone screw over the guide wire and at least partially within the first hole;
and
removing the guide wire, thereby allowing the screw to bend.
23. (new) The method of claim 22, wherein the bone screw has a head, and a shaft having a longitudinal axis, a proximal section adjoining the head, and a distal section; wherein the distal section is rotatably attached to the proximal section.
24. (new) The method of claim 22, wherein the bone screw has a cannulated shaft.
25. (new) The method of claim 22, wherein the first bone segment is a collarbone.
26. (new) The method of claim 22, further comprising the step of inserting at least a portion of the bone screw into a second bone segment.
27. (new) The method of claim 26, wherein the second bone segment does not have a pre-drilled hole.
28. (new) The method of claim 26, wherein the second bone segment is a coracoideus process.
29. (new) The method of claim 26, wherein the bone screw has a shaft having a proximal section inserted into the first bone segment and a distal section inserted into the second bone segment.

30. (new) A bone screw comprising:
a head,
a shaft having a longitudinal axis, a proximal section adjoining the head, and a distal
section polyaxially associated with the proximal section.